

May 7, 2003

Public Notice for Section 401 Water Quality Certification  
for  
Trinity County Department of Transportation  
Mad River Road Rehabilitation  
WDID No. 1A03071WNTR

**Trinity County**

On April 14, 2003, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Trinity County Department of Transportation requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for the Mad River Road Rehabilitation located in Trinity County, California. The proposed project causes disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Johnson Creek and the Mad River located in Ruth Hydrologic Area No. 109.40.

Culvert replacement and road widening will occur along Mad River Road, in the town of Ruth, California. The project involves replacement of the existing 72-in. by 50-in. boiler plate culvert with an 8 ft. high by 12½ ft. wide, 60 ft. long metal culvert. The larger culvert will be placed two feet deeper in the streambed to eliminate the existing perched outlet and plunge pool, increasing stream flow capacity. The road prism will be widened five feet on each side to accommodate paved shoulders, unpaved shoulder backing material, and guardrails. A temporary detour will be placed upstream during the culvert replacement. Fill used for diversion of Johnson Creek will consist of twenty cubic yards of washed gravel. All fill will be removed upon completion of the project. If water is flowing during construction, it will be diverted or pumped through a pipe around the work site. A carrier conduit will be installed alongside the new culvert to convey an existing private water supply line that currently runs through the culvert. Excavation of fill and placement of the detour culvert will be done with an excavator operating from the road. A few riparian trees will be removed to accommodate equipment access and the culvert detour.

This project will result in the permanent loss of 0.02 acre of wetlands. Approximately 0.04 acre of wetlands will be temporarily impacted by this project.

Compensatory mitigation measures have been outlined in the Evaluation of Environmental Impact prepared for the Mad River Road at Ruth, Rehabilitation. Any time visible dust is emitted by project operations, areas that are not paved or rocked will be watered with a fine spray. The contractor will exercise every reasonable precaution to protect streams from pollution with fuels, oils, and other harmful materials, and will conduct and schedule operations so as to avoid or minimize sedimentation of streams. No debris, soil, silt, sand, bark, sawdust, rubbish, cement, concrete or washings from construction or any related activity will be discharged into the watercourse, or placed in a

location where it may pass into the watercourse. Noncompensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices to prevent erosion, sedimentation, and accidental spills. The contractor will also implement a Pollution Prevention Plan to minimize impacts to the area.

Trinity County Planning Department, as the lead agency for this project, has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Trinity County's Mad River Road Rehabilitation is scheduled to begin July 2003 and will be complete by October 15, 2003. Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341). In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Dayna Lieberman at (707) 576-6712, or at [liebd@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:liebd@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov) within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

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